

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests that the foregoing amendments be made prior to examination of the present application.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 48-104 are now pending in this application.

All the new claims submitted are supported by the specification, including the originally submitted claims.

- New claims 1 to 11 correspond substantially to original claims 1 to 16 and are fully supported by the specification;
- New claims 12 to 17 are fully supported by original claims 1 to 16 and page 83, line 8 to page 88, line 14;
- New claim 18 corresponds substantially to former claims 17 and 33 to 35;
- New claims 19 to 24 correspond substantially to original claims 40 to 43 and are fully supported by page 49, line 24 to page 59, line 4;
- New claim 25 corresponds substantially to former claims 29 to 33;
- New claims 26 to 36, 56 and 57 correspond substantially to former claims 18 to 28;
- New claims 37 to 48 are supported by Figure 7B and by pages 56 to 66 of the specification; and
- New claims 49 to 55 are supported by former claim 10, and by pages 14 to 40 and pages 90 to 93.

Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is now in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

A check for additional claim fees is submitted with this communication. No additional fee is believed due in connection with this Preliminary Amendment. However, if any fee is due, kindly charge the appropriate amount to Deposit Account 50-0872.

Respectfully submitted,

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